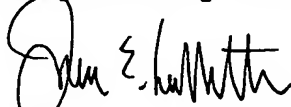


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment eliminates the multiple dependent claim status of claim 6. New claims 15-18 are added to recapture the subject matter in the amended claim.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter
Registration No. 28,732

Date: February 17, 2005

JEL/spp

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. L8612.05107
STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.
Suite 850
1615 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone: (202) 785-0100
Facsimile: (202) 408-5200